

**From:** [Johnson, Michael \(Begich\)](#)  
**To:** [Bill Dunbar](#); [Arvin Ganesan](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Begich Statement on EPA Watershed Study  
**Date:** 05/18/2012 12:05 PM

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Hey, here's our statement. -MJ

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**From:** Kearns, Devon (Begich)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 18, 2012 3:04 PM  
**To:** Kearns, Devon (Begich)  
**Subject:** Begich Statement on EPA Watershed Study



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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Contact: Julie Hasquet, Press Secretary  
(907) 258-9304 office  
(907) 350-4846 cell

**Sen. Begich Statement on EPA Watershed Study**  
***Emphasizes need to protect Bristol Bay; Assess mining projects on case by case basis***

Sen. Mark Begich today released the below statement following the release of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) scientific study on the potential impact of large-scale mining in Bristol Bay watershed, home to the largest wild sockeye salmon run in the world.

“I remain opposed to any pre-emptive decision on the Pebble mine. While the project needs to meet a high hurdle – protecting the world’s largest and most valuable salmon run - developers should be allowed to present their project and it should succeed or fail on its merits.

“I know Alaskans have strong opinions on both sides of the Pebble mine project. I encourage all of us participate in the lengthy public process. And when we have more information on what will actually take place, let’s make a good decision together about our future.”

**Devon Kearns** | Deputy Press Secretary  
Office of U.S. Senator Mark Begich  
113 Russell | Tel: [\(202\) 224-9578](tel:2022249578)  
[devon\\_kearns@begich.senate.gov](mailto:devon_kearns@begich.senate.gov)  
E-newsletter signup: [begich.senate.gov](http://begich.senate.gov)



